

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL

Tuesday, March 1, 2016
7:30 P.M.

Richmond Hill City Hall Council Chambers

Present from City Council: Harold Fowler, *Mayor*; Russ Carpenter, *Mayor Pro-Tem*; *Councilmembers:* Johnny Murphy, John Fesperman, Jan Bass

Staff Present: Chris Lovell, *City Manager*; Ursula Lee, *City Clerk*; Ralph Catlett, *Fire Chief*; Scott Allison, *Director of Planning & Zoning*; Randy Dykes, *Asst. Planning & Zoning Director*; Mark Long, *Code Enforcement*; Bob Whitmarsh, *Finance Director*

Visitors: Steve Scholar, Seafood Committee (Tim, Bonnie, Billy, & Doug), Bob Schneider, Trace Gunter, John Mowry, Steve Scholar, Billy Albritton, Brad Brookshire, Arthur Hurt, Fausto Tenen, Tim Thurrson, Roberto Alvarez

Mayor Fowler called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Councilmember Carpenter gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Catlett.

1. Approval of Minutes of meeting **February 16, 2016**

Councilmember Fesperman made a motion to approve the February 16, 2016 City Council Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

Mayor Fowler stated that before the departmental reports he would like to announce that he has promoted Planning & Zoning Director Scott Allison to Assistant City Manager. Mayor Fowler commented that since Mr. Allison has been here he has done a fantastic job and definitely deserves it.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administration and Personnel: Ursula Lee

Nothing to report.

Public Safety:

Police Department: Chief Billy Reynolds

Nothing to report.

Fire Department: Ralph Catlett

1. Approve/Disapprove request from the GOSF Committee to present fireworks in J. F. Gregory Park on October 15 and to have the fireworks fee waived for that presentation. Chief Catlett stated that the Seafood Festival Committee has requested to present fireworks in J. F. Gregory Park on October 15th and also would like the \$450.00 fee waived.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve request from the GOSF Committee to present fireworks in J. F. Gregory Park on October 15 and to have the fireworks fee waived for that presentation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

Public Works: Charles Heino, Enviroworx

Nothing to report. Mr. Trace Gunter was present for any questions.

Parks, Recreation and Culture: Harvey Lashley

Nothing to report

Mayor Fowler stated he was moving agenda item up from New Business;

1. Approve/Disapprove request from the GOSF Committee to serve alcoholic beverages on October 14 and October 15 at the Great Ogeechee Seafood Festival. The Seafood Committee came forward and explained it was about that time of year again and it would be beer and wine only.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve request from the GOSF Committee to serve alcoholic beverages on October 14 and October 15 at the Great Ogeechee Seafood Festival. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement: Scott Allison

1. Approval/Disapproval of the building sign for **Maintain Beauty Bar** to be located at 10471 Ford Avenue, Suite B-2. Mr. Allison stated renderings of signage are in Council's packet, this is located near All Things Chocolate; this is the last unit in that plaza. The ARB did make recommendations for that approval.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the building sign for Maintain Beauty Bar to be located at 10471 Ford Avenue, Suite B-2. The motion was

seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

2. Approval/Disapproval of the building sign for **Black Tiger Taekwon-Do** to be located at 10104 Ford Avenue, Suite G-1. Mr. Allison stated Council has the application and renderings from the sign company. The ARB recommended it be a channel letter sign and comply with the Ordinance; the majority of signs in the plaza have channel letters. Mr. Schneider is present to answer any questions.

Mayor Fowler noted Councilmember Bass is recusing herself from this item.

Mr. Robert Schneider stated he would like to remove logo and use letters only. Mayor Fowler stated what they are voting on tonight is this specific sign and there could be no changes at this time. Mr. Schneider asked so as long as it's channel letters it would be fine.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the building sign for Black Tiger Taekwon-Do to be located at 10104 Ford Avenue, Suite G-1; using channel letters without the logo. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, and Murphy.

Councilmember Bass rejoined council meeting.

3. Approval/Disapproval of the project entrance sign for **Buckeye Plantation** located on Harris Trail at the entrance to Buckeye Drive. Mr. Allison stated it would be a brick monument sign with Ivory mortar, and would be sandblasted. The ARB did make recommendations for that approval.

Councilmember Carpenter commented that it was a good looking sign.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the project entrance sign for Buckeye Plantation located on Harris Trail at the entrance to Buckeye Drive. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

4. Approval/Disapproval of the request by **Simcoe at Claybourn, LLC** for Final Plat approval for Claybourn Phase II located off of Sterling Links Way in Richmond Hill Plantation, formerly known as L-Pod. Mr. Allison stated the infrastructure has been installed and the maintenance bond is in place; and it meets all city requirements.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the request by Simcoe at Claybourn, LLC for Final Plat approval for Claybourn Phase II located off of Sterling Links Way in Richmond Hill Plantation, formerly known as L-Pod. The

motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

5. Approval/Disapproval of the request by **Simcoe at Creekside, LLC** for Landscape Plan approval for Creekside Phase VII located off of Brisbon Road. Mr. Allison stated they have some infrastructure work going on now. They have a 15' landscape strip buffer requirement, live oak or similar tree. The applicant does meet all those requirements. The ARB did make recommendations for that approval.

There was a brief discussion on how the berms would look from both sides of this project.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the request by Simcoe at Creekside, LLC for Landscape Plan approval for Creekside Phase VII located off of Brisbon Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

6. Approval/Disapproval of a request by **Vimesh Patel** for an alcohol license to sell beer only for off premises consumption at The Vape Loft located at 3741 US Highway 17, Suite 100. **Mr. Allison stated this item was withdrawn by the applicant.**

Finance Department: Bob Whitmarsh

1. Approve/Disapprove financial report for December 2015. Mr. Whitmarsh stated that the city generated more revenue in the General Fund and Water/sewer Fund than expected. We did have some repairs to City Hall to make it ADA compliant; but all in all we had a very good year.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the financial report for December 2015. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CITY MANAGER TOPICS: Chris Lovell

1. Approve/Disapprove award of annual contract for street repairs to Lee McCurdy Construction, LLC for \$210,350.00. Mr. Lovell stated the city was going to hold off on awarding this due to the sudden passing away of Mr. McCurdy. Thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Stephane and their family. This item is withdrawn for tonight.
1. First reading of proposed amendment to Revenue Ordinance, Article L, Section 4(B) 4. Mr. Lovell stated all changes are in council's packet and are highlighted in

yellow. If council have any questions or comments to get back in touch with him.

2. First reading of proposed amendment to Richmond Hill Code of Ordinance Section 70-216.-Use of non potable water to supply private landscape irrigation systems. Mr. Lovell stated this was in council's packet as well. Mayor Fowler told Council to look them over and if they have any questions to contact Mr. Lovell; and they would be voting on them at next council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Fowler stated he had planned on having the Greenway Project Plan for tonight but there was some miss-communication on the new proclamation. We do have the new one and will get in Council's mailbox in the next few days. Look it over and we will discuss and vote on it at the next meeting.

Mayor Fowler noted they had been discussing the second phase of sidewalk expansion and the engineering and permitting will be moving forward. Once we get the fees and costs we will bring that back before council. That should probably be in a couple of months and it will be bid out.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve/Disapprove request from the GOSF Committee to serve alcoholic beverages on October 14 and October 15 at the Great Ogeechee Seafood Festival. **This item already approved.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to take a recess for refreshments only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Murphy, Carpenter, Bass and Fesperman.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 P. M. in a motion by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Fesperman, Carpenter, Bass and Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,

Ursula Lee
City Clerk

